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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/553,497	10/14/2005	Oday Abbosh	TGP/jma/J45343/US (200512)	1487
69638 7590 11/06/2009 KAMRATH & ASSOCIATES P.A. 4825 OLSON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY SUITE 245 GOLDEN VALLEY, MN 55422			EXAMINER CHU, KING M	
			ART UNIT 3728	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/553,497	Applicant(s) ABBOSH ET AL.	
	Examiner KING M. CHU	Art Unit 3728	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5,8-10,12-14,23-25 and 29-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,5,8-10,12-14,23-25 and 29-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 October 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 3, 5, 8-10, 12, 23-25, and 29-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franco (2,823,089) in view of Markovics (4,627,640).

In reference to Claim 9

Franco discloses a convenience device comprising an elongate web of material (see Figure 1) comprising a multiplicity of individual portions (11) integrally connected together in series (see Figure 1) wherein the multiplicity, of individual portions each have a generally circular shape (see column 1, lines 64-68), with the elongate web having an overall width (axis running from top of Figure 1 to the bottom of Figure 1), with each of the multiplicity of individual portions having a length along a longitudinal axis of the elongate web (axis parallel to 14, see Figures 1-2), wherein each of the multiplicity of individual portions has an area that is less than a product of the overall width across the elongate web multiplied by the length along the longitudinal axis of the elongate web (see Figure 1 and 2, where the area of each individual portions 10 is less than a product of the overall width across the web multiplied by the length) and wherein neighbouring individual portions are connected together by a frangible zone of material (11a) whose width across the elongate web is small relative to the overall width of the elongate web to

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act as a controlled breaking point for when one of the multiplicity of individual portions is to be separated from the neighbouring individual portions on dispensing (see Figure 3), wherein the multiplicity of individual portions are each folded.

Franco discloses the claimed invention as discussed above with the exception of the following claimed limitations that are taught by Markovics: the portions are folded about a plurality of radially extending fold lines (fold lines 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, and 44 are radially extending fold line, see configuration of Figure 7) into a stack with quadrant shape (see Figures 3, 4, and 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics so that the web material of Franco is folded into a stack with quadrant shapes with a plurality of fold lines for the purpose of ease of manufacture and easier to provide a variety of attractive shapes and configurations, as taught by Markovics (column 1, lines 39-43).

In reference to Claim 3

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Franco further discloses that the frangible zone is in the form of a single strip of material in a middle section of the web (see Figure 1, 11a).

In Reference to Claim 5

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Franco further discloses the elongate web is folded at the frangible zones between the neighbouring individual portions (see Figure 1 of Franco).

In Reference to Claim 8

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Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Franco further discloses the individual portions are folded about a diameter (see Figure 1, via fold line 14) of the generally circular shape to produce the stack.

In reference to Claim 10

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Markovics further discloses that the individual portions are folded about the plurality of radially extending fold lines in a fan-like pattern (Figures 3 and 4 shows that the radially extending fold lines are folded in a fan-like pattern).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 9.

In Reference to Claim 12

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Franco further discloses a dispenser (20) containing a convenience device as claimed in claim 9.

In reference to Claim 23

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 9 and Markovics further discloses that the plurality of radially extending fold lines includes a first fold line extending across a middle of each individual portion at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the web (fold lines 43 and 44 see Figure 3 and configuration of Figure 7).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 9.

In reference to Claim 24

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 23 and Markovics further discloses that the plurality of radially extending fold lines includes second (38 and 41) and third fold lines (39 and 40) arranged at an angle of 45° to either side of said first fold line on each individual portions (since 38 and 40 are at 90° to each other and 43 is the central fold line, 38 and 40 is at a 45° angle with 43, respectively), with each individual portion being folded about the second and third fold lines in a same sense, whilst being folded about said first fold line in an opposite sense (see the fold configuration of Figures 3-4 and 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 23.

In reference to Claim 25

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 24 and Markovics further discloses a fourth radially extending fold line (64) aligned with the longitudinal axis of the web, with each individual portion folded in a fan-like pattern (see Figure 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 24.

In reference to Claim 29

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Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 5 and Markovics further teaches a first fold line (43 and 44, see Figure 6) extending across a middle of each individual portion at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the web (see Figure 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 5.

In reference to Claim 30

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 29 and Markovics further discloses that the plurality of radially extending fold lines includes second (38 and 41) and third fold lines (39 and 40) arranged at an angle of 45° to either side of said first fold line on each individual portions (since 38 and 40 are at 90° to each other and 43 is the central fold line, 38 and 40 is at a 45° angle with 43, respectively), with each individual portion being folded about the second and third fold lines in a same sense, whilst being folded about said first fold line in an opposite sense (see the fold configuration of Figures 3-4 and 7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 29.

In reference to Claim 31

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 30 and Markovics further discloses a fourth radially extending fold line (64) aligned with the longitudinal axis of the web, with each individual portion folded in a fan-like pattern (see Figure 6).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 30.

In reference to Claim 32

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 3 and Markovics further teaches a first fold line (43 and 44, see Figure 6) extending across a middle of each individual portion at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the web (see Figure 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics for reasons stated in claim 3.

In reference to Claim 33

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 33 and Franco further teaches that the web of material is formed of absorbent materials (column 1 lines 48-51).

In reference to Claim 34

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 33 and Franco further teaches that the web of material is formed of paper (column 1 lines 48-51).

In reference to Claim 35

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 34 and Franco further teaches that the web of material is formed of paper towels (column 1 lines 48-51).

In reference to Claim 36

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Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 33 and Franco further teaches that the web of material is formed of wipes (column 1 lines 48-51, facial tissues and toilet tissues are considered wipes).

In reference to Claim 37

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed above for claim 33 and Franco further teaches that the web of material is formed of cleaning or hygienic material (column 1 lines 48-51, facial tissues).

3. Claims 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franco (2,823,089) in view of Markovics (4,627,640) and further in view of Harsanyi (5,803,249).

In reference to Claim 13

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed in claim 9 with the exception of the following claimed limitations that are taught by Harsanyi: two or more separate compartments each for holding the stack (see abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics and further in view of Harsanyi so that dispensing of wet sterilizing towelettes and dry towelettes can be achieved, as taught by Harsanyi (column 1, lines 14-16).

In reference to Claim 14

Franco in view of Markovics discloses the claimed invention as discussed in claim 9 with the exception of the following claimed limitations that are taught by

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Harsanyi: one of the two or more separate compartments holds a dry stack and another of the two or more separate compartments holds a moist or wet stack (see abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Franco in view of Markovics and further in view of Harsanyi for reasons stated in claim 13.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KING M. CHU whose telephone number is (571)270-7428. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8AM - 5PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ehud Gartenberg can be reached on (517)272-4828. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/KING M CHU/

Examiner, Art Unit 3728

/Ehud Gartenberg/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3728